

CAMP REYNOLDS
(Old) Army Buildings, (Fort McDowell, WEST
Angel Island
Marin County, California
GARRISON)

HABS NO. Cal-1841

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1.

PHOTOGRAPH

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Western Office, Division of Design and Construction
1000 Geary Street
San Francisco, California

ADDENDUM TO:
CAMP REYNOLDS
(Fort McDowell, West Garrison)
Angel Island State Park
Angel Island
Marin County
California

HABS CA-1841
CAL,21-ANGEL,1-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

REDUCED COPIES OF MEASURED DRAWINGS

FIELD RECORDS

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
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HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

ADDENDUM TO CAMP REYNOLDS (Fort McDowell, West Garrison)

HABS No. CA-1841

Location: Angel Island, Marin County, California

Dates of Construction: 1863-1908, with repairs and additional temporary buildings later

Builder: U. S. Army

Original Owner: U. S. Army, 1863-48

Subsequent Owners: U. S. Department of the Interior, 1948-1963

Present Owner: State of California, Department of Parks and Recreation, 1963-present

Present Use: Angel Island State Park - buildings either vacant or used for park activities

Significance: Camp Reynolds was established on the west side of Angel Island in 1863 to enhance the coastal defenses of San Francisco Bay during the Civil War. In 1866 Camp Reynolds became the army's general depot for receiving and distributing new recruits in the West. From the 1860s through the 1880s a village of wood frame buildings including officers' quarters, barracks, and various support structures was constructed and expanded. Now part of Angel Island State Park, Camp Reynolds features a remarkable collection of surviving late-nineteenth-century officers' quarters in addition to the chapel, quartermaster's stable, and bakery. The most recent Camp Reynolds buildings still extant are two brick masonry buildings, a hospital and storehouse, built during the first decade of the twentieth century. Camp Reynolds was renamed Fort McDowell in 1900. During the early twentieth century, army development on Angel Island shifted to the Depot of Recruits and Casuals, or East Garrison, of Fort McDowell. Construction of reinforced concrete buildings at the East Garrison during 1910-14 made the former Camp Reynolds, or West Garrison, a secondary post on the island. The West Garrison functioned as an ancillary of the East Garrison until the entire base was decommissioned in 1946.

Historian: Lisa Pfueller Davidson, 2002

Project Information: Camp Reynolds was documented by the Historic American Buildings

Survey (HABS, Paul Dolinsky, Chief) (U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, HABS/HAER/HALS Division, E. Blaine Cliver, Chief) during summer and fall 2002. The project was sponsored by the State of California Department of Parks and Recreation, Rusty Areias, Director; and by Angel Island State Park, Nick Franco, Superintendent. Field recording and measured drawings were completed by Mark Schara, HABS Architect and Project Supervisor; HABS Architect Kathy Falwell; and Architects Paul Davidson (Pratt Institute) and Jonathan Eggert (University of Michigan). HABS Historian Lisa Pfueller Davidson served as project historian. HABS Photographer James Rosenthal completed large format photographs during fall 2002. Assistance was provided by the Staff of Angel Island State Park and Marin District Historian Marianne Hurley. Additional documentation of selected West Garrison buildings is filed under HABS No. CA-1841-A through CA-1841-H. See related documentation, HABS No. CA-2721, Fort McDowell, for information about the East Garrison portion of the island.

I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

In September 1863 the United States Army established Camp Reynolds in a sheltered cove on the west side of Angel Island. The Civil War was raging in the East and this island offered a strategic vantage point for the defense of San Francisco Bay. Company B of the Third Artillery, under the command of Lieut. John L. Tiernon, was sent to create an outpost that would complement the regional defenses found at Yerba Buena Island, Alcatraz Island and Fort Point. Creation of Camp Reynolds began a decades long development of Angel Island by the U.S. military that did not end until 1962. Today part of Angel Island State Park, the surviving officers' quarters and supporting structures such as the hospital, chapel, and quartermaster's storehouse at Camp Reynolds provide unique physical evidence of army life during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.¹

California had become part of the United States only fifteen years earlier in 1848. In 1850 Angel Island was declared a military reserve, but not immediately occupied by the army. When Tiernon and fifty-six soldiers arrived on September 12, 1863, there was an active military stone quarry and an assortment of civilian squatters on the island. Tiernon named the new installation Camp Reynolds after Major General John Reynolds, who had been killed two months earlier at Gettysburg. On September 23, Tiernon requested permission to build one set of company quarters and one set of officers' quarters before the winter rainy season made construction impossible. The Corps of Engineers was responsible for building gun batteries on the island and a wharf at the west cove. Tiernon recommended that the garrison be located in this cove as well.²

A civilian contractor, Phineas F. Marston, was hired to erect the first buildings at Camp Reynolds, but construction did not progress smoothly. First Lieutenant Louis H. Fine returned from detached duty and assumed command of the company in October. Fine's correspondence with the Adjutant General in San Francisco documents numerous complaints about Marston. On November 7th, Fine complained that the quarters were unfinished although Marston had been working for a month with ten men. Marston left these men unsupervised for nearly two weeks, and as they were civilians being paid by the day, they had no incentive to hurry. Fine requested that the project be turned over to the post Quartermaster so they could have shelter by winter. It is not clear whether Marston's men or Camp Reynolds soldiers eventually finished the construction, but barrels of whiskey with a lumber shipment and use of the guard house building

¹John Soennichsen. *Miwoks to Missiles: A History of Angel Island*. (Tiburon, CA: Angel Island Association, 2001), 31, 35, 42. On the pre-Army history of Angel Island see chapters 1-4.

²Soennichsen, 42-43. Letter from John Tiernon, 2nd Lieut., 3rd Artillery Co. to Assistant Adjutant General, San Francisco, (23 September 1863), National Archives and Records Administration (hereafter NARA), Record Group 393 - Records of the Army of the Continental Command (hereafter RG 393), Entry 1 - Letters and Endorsements Sent, Volume 1 of 1, Fort McDowell, California, Part V.

as a boarding house for the civilian laborers caused addition problems between Fine and Marston. After February 1864, Brevet Major George Andrews, Third Artillery, resumed command of the post and its continued construction.³

Existing evidence does not give a precise account of building construction at Camp Reynolds in the fall of 1863 and during the rest of the Civil War. According to construction dates listed in a later inspection report, the commanding officer's quarters, the adjacent double officers' quarters, guard house, quartermaster storehouse, post trader's store, quartermaster stable, and bakehouse were built in 1863. It seems likely that at least some of these buildings were begun in 1863, but not completed until the next year. The report lists two sets of enlisted men's barracks, a six-room band quarters, blacksmith shop, and two sets of laundresses quarters as built in 1864 and the post trader's quarters in 1865.⁴

By the end of the Civil War, Camp Reynolds consisted of a collection of modest wood buildings housing all of the basic functions of a self-sufficient army post. The earliest photograph of Camp Reynolds, dated c. 1865, shows the careful arrangement of these early buildings (Figure 1). A fence surrounds the site and defines the building lots. A parade grounds was created at the center of the narrow valley with the two officers' quarters on the south side and barracks and service buildings on the north. The laundresses' quarters and bake house were placed at the top of the hill above the parade grounds. This common military site layout provided the basic form for the expansion of Camp Reynolds in subsequent years.⁵

With the reorganization of the army at the end of the Civil War, the future of Camp Reynolds was initially in doubt. Angel Island maintained some coastal defense duties, but then in 1866 its primary purpose became processing recruits assigned to the Western plains forts. Military historian Edward Coffman describes the role of frontier constabulary as the primary mission of the late-nineteenth-century peacetime army. In 1870, 23,000 men or sixty-two percent of the regular army was assigned to the West, including the Pacific coast posts. This percentage increased slightly when the Army was no longer needed for Reconstruction in the South.⁶

³Soennichsen, 44-45. Letters from L. H. Fine, 1st Lieut., 3rd Artillery Co. to Assistant Adjutant General, San Francisco, (8, 11 November 1863), NARA, RG 393, Entry 1, Volume 1.

⁴Inspection Report to Quartermaster General (30 June 1879), NARA, RG 92 - Records of the Office of the Quartermaster General (hereafter RG 92), Entry 225 - Consolidated Correspondence File, 1794-1915, Box 36, Folder 4. Other evidence indicates that the dates in this report are accurate. On the officers' quarters see reports HABS No. CA-1841-A and CA-1841-B.

⁵Photo No. CN2250, Camp Reynolds, California, c. 1865, NARA, Still Pictures Branch (College Park, MD), RG 92, Quartermaster Photographs, Vol. 25.

⁶Edward M. Coffman. *The Old Army: A Portrait of the American Army in Peacetime, 1784-1898*. (New York: Oxford University Press, 1986), 254. Coffman's study is an excellent source regarding life at late-nineteenth-century army posts.

Large numbers of recruits moved through Camp Reynolds, which was staffed by a small permanent detachment including a band. The isolated island location made conducting routine army business difficult. In 1867 a request was made for daily steamer service from San Francisco to aid communication with department headquarters at the Presidio and transportation of supplies.⁷ A site plan from 1868 indicates that the new recruit depot status initially brought very little physical change to the installation. The only building added since the Civil War was an one-and-a-half-story officers' quarters. Built in 1868, this structure was located behind the commanding officer's quarters close to the shoreline.⁸

In 1869 Assistant Surgeon Edwin Bentley wrote a detailed description of the army activities and facilities on Angel Island. Bentley's written tour around the island illustrates the variety of structures and activities in addition to those at Camp Reynolds, including ancient Indian shell mounds, a vegetable garden for Alcatraz Island, infantry tent camps, and a quarry and company quarters at Point Blunt. The carriage road circumnavigating the island was partially complete at this time. At Camp Reynolds Bentley describes the commanding officer's and two additional officers' quarters, the barracks, band quarters, wharf and boathouse, guard house, carpenter's shop, "settler's" or post trader's house, bakery, laundresses' quarters, and other service buildings.⁹

At the end of 1869 and during 1870, a number of new buildings were added to expand the facilities at Camp Reynolds. Using standard plans from the Surgeon General's Office, a new hospital was built in December 1869 on a hill above the parade grounds.¹⁰ Ideally the post hospitals were placed on an open or hilltop site to facilitate ventilation. The old hospital building located three-quarters of a mile from the post at Hospital Cove was then used as a chapel. The new hospital had a one-and-a-half story, three-bay pavilion with an one-story, four-bay ward wing to the side. Assistant Surgeon Alexander H. Hoff described the new hospital at Camp Reynolds in 1870:

⁷Letter, (6 January 1867), NARA, RG 92, Entry 225, Box 36.

⁸Camp Reynolds site plan, 1868, NARA, Cartographic and Architectural Branch (College Park, MD), RG 77 - Office of the Army Corps of Engineers (hereafter RG 77), Fortification File, drawer 97, sheet 7; Inspection Report to Quartermaster General (30 June 1879). Starting in the 1880s, the post chaplain was assigned to these quarters.

⁹Edwin Bentley, Assistant Surgeon, "Angel Island, California," (15 October 1869), typescript in Angel Island State Park files. Correspondence describing the administration of the recruit depot from February to November 1869 is found in the National Archives, RG 393, Part V, Entry 2 - Letters Sent, Volume 1.

¹⁰Hospital (1871 - elevation and section), Map 42-7, "Angel Island," RG 92 Post and Reservation File, NARA, Cartographic and Architectural Branch. On standardization of army hospital construction, see Alison K. Hoagland, "'The Invariable Model': Standardization and Military Architecture in Wyoming, 1860-1900," *Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians* 57:3 (September 1998): 298-313, esp. 307-312. For more information about the Camp Reynolds hospitals see report HABS No. CA-1841-G.

The hospital is situated on the western slope of the triangle, 100 feet above the level of the sea, in a fine, airy position. It has been recently erected in accordance with the plan in Circular No. 4. It has one ward for twelve beds, with bath-room and water-closets attached. The grounds around it are at present being graded, and, when completed, will make one of the most beautiful spots on the island.¹¹

The hospital faced the carriage road at the top of the hill; support buildings at Camp Reynolds tended to be either clustered near the road or the wharf, with barracks and quarters lining the sloped parade grounds in between. An additional double officers' quarters, up the hill from the existing one, was built at this time. Also, a small commissary sergeant's quarters was built on a hill near the wharf.¹² In addition to the seven officers, 212 enlisted men, and assorted family members at Camp Reynolds during 1870-71, the number of recruits averaged about 250, probably requiring many of these men be housed in tents.¹³ Typically new enlisted men received only a week or two of training at the recruit depot before being shipped to their assigned post.¹⁴

The Army was slow to allocate money for the expansion of Camp Reynolds and improvement of buildings hastily built during the war, in spite of the pivotal role the post played in manning the Western forts. During this period there was debate about the necessity of a large standing army that resulted in chronic underfunding for existing military installations. Regardless the late-nineteenth-century U.S. army was the largest peacetime force since the adoption of the Constitution. According to military historian Joseph Dawson, "modernization and professional improvement in the Army of the late nineteenth century was slow and haphazard and always pursued on a limited budget."¹⁵

During the 1870s and 1880s, continual requests for repairs and new buildings were punctuated by a flurry of new construction in 1874-76 and extensive repairs to existing quarters in 1883-1886. The 1870s expansion was necessitated by enlargement of the post to four permanent companies. In 1874, four identical single-family officers' quarters were added to the

¹¹Surgeon General's Office. *War Department Circular No. 4 A Report on Barracks and Hospitals with Descriptions of Military Posts*. (Washington, DC: GPO, 1870), 441.

¹²On the 1869-70 double officers' quarters, see report HABS No. CA-1841-D. The commissary sergeant's quarters may have become the band master's quarters. See report HABS No. CA-1841-E.

¹³Surgeon General's Office, (1870), 441; Surgeon General's Office. *Circular No. 8 - A Report on the Hygiene of the U.S. Army, Descriptions of Military Posts*. (Washington, D.C.: GPO, 1875), 499.

¹⁴Coffman, 336.

¹⁵Joseph G. Dawson, III. *The Late Nineteenth Century U. S. Army, 1865-1898: A Research Guide*. (New York: Greenwood Press, 1990), 7.

row on the south side of the parade grounds.¹⁶ Two sets of barracks were added to the north side. Also in 1874, a headquarters building and a six-unit non-commissioned officers' quarters were built. Sometimes these non-com quarters were referred to as laundresses' quarters, since many non-com's wives were employed in that capacity. In 1874-75, a wing was added to the hospital, doubling capacity to twenty-four beds. Finally, the chapel was built in 1876, close to the existing graveyard on the hill behind officers' row.¹⁷ This construction campaign greatly expanded the facilities at Camp Reynolds for both officers and enlisted men, in addition to their respective families.¹⁸

A site plan from January 1877 shows the expanded rows of buildings at Camp Reynolds (Figure 2). The characteristic military hierarchy and order of a row of officers' quarters and row of barracks facing each other across a parade grounds is evident. In an 1882 article on army posts, Lieutenant-Colonel Thomas Anderson observed that "nearly all our posts are built with the barracks and quarters facing inward on an oblong parade."¹⁹ A more haphazard grouping of service buildings and non-commissioned officers quarters appear above the parade grounds near the road and at the base near the wharf.²⁰

In 1882, two officers' quarters were moved from Yerba Buena to Angel Island. The next year those structure were repaired and placed at the top of the parade grounds, completing the ensemble of officers' quarters now existing at Camp Reynolds. From 1883 to 1886, the other officers' quarters also received extensive repair including replacing wood foundations with brick piers and adding indoor bathrooms.²¹ Prior to this time only the commanding officer's quarters

¹⁶For more information on an example of these quarters, see HABS No. CA-1841-C.

¹⁷See report HABS No. CA-1841-F.

¹⁸Inspection Report to Quartermaster General (30 June 1879); Surgeon General's Office, (1875), 498.

¹⁹Lieut.Colonel Thomas M. Anderson. "Army Posts, Barracks and Quarters," *Journal of the Military Service Institution of the United States* 2:8 (1882): 446.

²⁰Camp Reynolds site plan, January 1877, NARA, Cartographic and Architectural Branch, RG 77, Fortification File, drawer 154, sheet 44-8. A copy of this site plan is also available at the GGNRA Park Archives at the Presidio in San Francisco (PAM Prints collection). For a description from early 1877 see "Angel Island," Drawing #1 with 1877 printed description attached, NARA, Cartographic, RG 77, Real Estate Division.

²¹Annual Report of Inspection of Public Buildings at Angel Island, CA, (includes site plan) (31 March 1883), NARA, RG 92, Entry 225, Box 37; Report of the Annual Inspection of Public Buildings at Angel Island, CA (31 March 1885), NARA, RG 92, Entry 225, Box 37. Regarding the houses moved from Yerba Buena island, the Report of Annual Inspection of Barracks and Quarters from March 31, 1882 states that officers' quarters no. 8 and 9 were recently brought from Yerba Buena and still standing on blocking at the time of the inspection (NARA, RG 92, Entry 225, Box 37). The 1883 report cited above states that Quarters No. 8 and 9 were "brought from Yerba Buena Island over a year ago, since last report [both have] been placed in position on its foundation. Dormer window placed in two upper rooms, interior altered, lathed and plastered, painted inside and out, water and sewer connections

had an indoor bath. Officers' row particularly cultivated the appearance of middle-class housing in a village or small town, in contrast to the more utilitarian housing provided for enlisted men. A mix of single and multi-family houses was a common technique used to serve the military hierarchy while creating a respectable domestic setting for the officers' families. According to architectural historian Alison K. Hoagland: "Although these quarters were assigned according to a strict hierarchy, with a higher-ranking officer receiving larger quarters, a commanding officer's quarters might not look any larger than the double houses occupied by two captains."²² At Camp Reynolds, captains were usually assigned to the single cottages built in 1874, with lieutenants assigned to the double quarters.

Military regulation also explains the prevalence of one-and-a-half story officers' quarters at Camp Reynolds. Many officers' quarters constructed during the 1860s and 1870s throughout the United States featured common vernacular one-and-a-half-story forms which provided the additional benefit of evading army regulations. Livable attic space was cheaper to construct than a full second story and did have to be included in the official room count. Although most post commanders avoided strict adherence to the number of rooms allocated for each rank, building houses with livable attics instead of full second stories reduced the room numbers that had to be reported to Washington. In 1882 Anderson called this practice "a kind of official evasion of the regulation limiting the number of rooms." He continued by declaring that "no Commanding Officer thinks now of confining company officers to the legal allowance of rooms if more can be given, neither should it be necessary to call a second-story room an attic."²³ By 1883 Quartermaster General Samuel R. Holabird changed the regulations so only main-floor rooms were counted in room allotments.²⁴

Compared to the more rustic and dangerous army posts on the frontier, the accommodations for officers and their families on Angel Island were desirable. Martha Summerhayes, wife of Lieutenant Jack Summerhayes, recalled that when transferred to Angel Island they "began to live, to truly live; for we felt the years spent at those desert posts under the scorching suns of Arizona had cheated us out of all but a bare existence upon earth."²⁵ In the milder California climate, Summerhayes could pursue common activities at Angel Island such as picnics, listening to band concerts, and drives on the carriage road. However, surgeon's wife Caroline Frey Winnie complained about the isolation of island life and the difficulty of keeping

made."

²²Alison K. Hoagland. "Village Constructions: U.S. Army Forts on the Plains, 1848-1890," *Winterthur Portfolio* 34:4 (December 1999): 229.

²³Anderson, 435.

²⁴See Hoagland, "'The Invariable Model'," 304, 310-311.

²⁵Martha Summerhayes. *Vanished Arizona: Recollections of My Army Life*, quoted in Coffman, 290.

her “very thin and cold” house warm.²⁶ For enlisted men, their families, and civilian employees, Camp Reynolds also likely offered many of the activities typical to late-nineteenth-century army posts, including illicit pursuits such as gambling and drinking, and more wholesome activities such as hunting, baseball, theatricals, dances, fishing, listening to the regimental band, and reading.²⁷

As the Indian conflicts waned in the 1890s, there was little additional investment at Camp Reynolds, or other U.S. army posts.²⁸ Construction activity did occur at Hospital Cove. Authorized by the United States Public Health Service in 1888, in 1890 construction began on a Quarantine Hospital in this natural cove facing Tiburon to the northwest. Army officials debated the necessity of continuing to maintain a post at Camp Reynolds and orders were given for only minimal repairs to allow temporary habitation. Colonel George H. Burton from the Inspector General’s Office visited the post in December 1895 and reported that:

The public buildings, with but few exceptions, are undergoing rapid deterioration; there is hardly 100 square feet of good flooring in all the barracks of the post; their roofs leak more or less; the walls are mostly defaced from open covering; the bath rooms are limited and hardly worthy of the name; ...the officers’ quarters, though in better repair than the barracks are rapidly passing into dilapidation....The appropriations for repairs of barracks and quarters, for the past few years have been insufficient to overcome the annual waste; hence the buildings have arrived at that stage of decay where they must immediately receive extensive repairs in order to make them habitable, otherwise in a short period they must of necessity be abandoned.²⁹

Burton returned in January 1897 and observed that new floors were being put in the barracks. With the future of the post still undecided, he complained about the “unnecessary waste of money to be patching up the old buildings on the present site of Angel Island, which is contracted, precipitous, and illy located at best for purposes of comfort or military instruction.”³⁰

²⁶Letters of Caroline Frey Winnie, December 1883 to September 1884, California Historical Society, typescript of excerpts in Angel Island State Park files.

²⁷Coffman, 357-58.

²⁸See Enclosure to Special Sanitary Report, (30 June 1893), NARA, RG 112, Entry 41, Box 2 for an April 1893 site plan and elevation and plan sketches of many of the buildings.

²⁹Letter to Quartermaster General from Inspector General J. C. Breckinridge, (1 May 1896), NARA, RG 92, Entry 89, Box 1173, File No. 92990.

³⁰Letter to Quartermaster General from Inspector General J. C. Breckinridge, (29 July 1897), NARA, RG 92, Entry 89, Box 1463, File No. 104871.

The start of the Spanish-American War in 1898 swiftly changed the perceived importance of the Army and the future of Camp Reynolds. In 1899 the Army expanded its Angel Island operations by establishing a Detention Camp near the quarry on the east side of the island. The Detention Camp could isolate and care for troops returning from the Philippines with contagious diseases, particularly smallpox. Major General William R. Shafter, then commanding the Department of California and former commanding officer at Camp Reynolds from 1886-96, chose the location for the Detention Camp on Angel Island in June 1899. Like Camp Reynolds, the site of the Detention Camp at Quarry Point was sloped and rocky.³¹

In 1900 Camp Reynolds was renamed Fort McDowell, reflecting the increased duties required of the post with the mass movement of troops to the Philippines. Because of the constricted space available at the former Camp Reynolds, later renamed the West Garrison of Fort McDowell, in 1901 the Detention Camp was converted into a Discharge Camp with a large cantonment of tents and temporary wood buildings. By 1904, the Discharge Camp became the Depot of Recruits and Casuals, changing the duties performed at Fort McDowell. Camp Reynolds at Angel Island and the Presidio in San Francisco had functioned as a recruit depots, providing initial training and forwarding the new soldiers to their assigned posts. The processing of recruits was now consolidated at Fort McDowell and all enlisted men returning from the Philippines or Hawaii for discharge, furlough, retirement, or transfer were sent to Angel Island.³²

The rather crude facilities available at the Depot of Recruits and Casuals contrasted with the village-like surroundings of Camp Reynolds. The increased activity during the first decade of the twentieth century allowed construction of new buildings at the post for the first time in nearly two decades. After several years of requests for a new hospital, a modern brick hospital was built in 1904-05.³³ The new structure was located just northwest of the old hospital on the edge of the hill overlooking the north side of the parade grounds. Another major brick building, the Signal Corps/Quartermaster storehouse, was built on 1908 at the base of the parade grounds near the wharf.³⁴ A site plan from July 1907 illustrates the status of Camp Reynolds in the midst of these changes (Figure 3). The old hospital was being used as a Quartermaster storehouse. The officers' quarters housed one major, four captains, and five lieutenants, with one side of the 1870 double quarters vacant. The former band master's quarters was being used as a mess for bachelor officers. Two wood storehouses occupied the site where the new brick storehouse

³¹Captain John P. Finley. "Discharging a Philippine Army, Part Two" *Sunset Magazine* 9:6 (October 1902): 375-76. The Army was divided into regional departments that oversaw the posts in that geographic area. The headquarters for the Department of California was located at the Presidio.

³²Soennichsen, 151; John A. Hussey. "Fort McDowell - Report on Application for an Historical Monument," Prepared for War Assets Administration (April 1949), typescript in Angel Island Park files, 26.

³³See report HABS No. CA-1841-G for information about the Camp Reynolds hospital.

³⁴See report HABS No. CA-1841-H for information about the Quartermaster Storehouse.

would be built the next year.³⁵

These two brick buildings would be the last permanent construction at Camp Reynolds. In 1909, the War Department decided to build a permanent Recruit Depot at the East Garrison, shifting the military activity and expansion on the island to that site. Regular line troops were removed from Angel Island and replaced by recruit companies transferred from other posts. This change included deactivating the gun batteries on the island, which had been at caretaker status for several years. Planning began for a major building campaign at the East Garrison of reinforced concrete Mission Revival structures, creating modern officers' quarters, barracks, a post exchange, administration building, guardhouse, and mess hall. These East Garrison facilities offered modern amenities and a much larger capacity than the West Garrison. The older buildings and constricted space available at the former Camp Reynolds made this a secondary post on the island.³⁶

The demands of troop movement during World War I kept both the West and East Garrisons of Fort McDowell busy in the 1910s. Although many administrative functions were superseded by the new East Garrison facilities, the West Garrison officers' quarters and barracks continued to be used for their original purposes.³⁷ Some additional temporary barracks were added behind the officers' quarters at the top of the parade grounds. In 1916 all of the buildings were renumbered in a manner that reflected the new importance of the East Garrison. Previously the commanding officers' quarters at Camp Reynolds was Building No. 1, with the numbers proceeding in sequence up officers' row. After 1916, Building No. 1 was the first in a row of officers' quarters at the East Garrison. The commanding officer's quarters at the West Garrison was renumbered No. 43 and then the rest of the West Garrison buildings were renumbered in sequence.

During the 1920s the West Garrison was maintained by a small caretaking detachment and used when the number of casualties could not be accommodated at the East Garrison. The hospital was converted into a barracks for this purpose. Colonel George C. Gatley became commanding officer of the post in 1924. During his five-year tenure he oversaw paving of the roads and walks, replacement of the sewers, and other repairs to the post buildings. By 1926 Angel Island was the largest troop staging facility on the West Coast. A c. 1927 aerial photograph of the West Garrison indicates that the two barracks built in 1864, the ones closest to

³⁵Fort McDowell, California (10 July 1907), NARA, Cartographic and Architectural Branch, RG 92 - Post and Reservation File, Fort Plan Volumes, 1904-05. A copy of this site plan is also available at the GGNRA Park Archives at the Presidio in San Francisco.

³⁶Hussey, 27.

³⁷See c. 1915 site plan, Fort McDowell, Angel Island, NARA, Cartographic and Architectural Branch, RG 77, Fortification File, Dr. 97, Sheet 32-13.

the wharf, had been torn down by this time.³⁸

In 1931 the officers' quarters on the south side of the West Garrison parade grounds were redesignated non-commissioned officers' quarters. The commanding officer's quarters became non-com quarters in 1934.³⁹ Buildings No. 52 and 53 at the top of the parade grounds remained officers' quarters. Major repairs during the 1930s including new plumbing fixtures helped improve these quarters. However this change reflected the connection between military hierarchy and quarters. Most officers' lived at the East Garrison in modern concrete quarters with central heating. Non-commissioned officers' lived in wood frame quarters with stove heat, both at the West and East Garrisons.

By the late 1930s, U. S. military activity had increased in response to the European war. Clearly more facilities would be needed to accommodate the growing number of replacement troops being processed through Angel Island. To meet this demand the former Immigration Station became the North Garrison of Fort McDowell in February 1941. Existing buildings were renovated and new barracks constructed. Additional temporary buildings were constructed at the East Garrison. By April 1941, all the nineteenth-century barracks at the West Garrison had been torn down and an outdoor movie screen was located on the parade grounds.⁴⁰

After Pearl Harbor, the massive challenge of staging troops for overseas duty became especially urgent. Fort McDowell had the only troop staging facilities in the area and it could only accommodate 4,200 men. The remote island location which made it desirable during the Civil War complicated the transportation of soldiers to and from the post. For the first few months of the war "temporary billets were established in parks, auditoriums, and warehouses scattered over the entire Bay region."⁴¹ By May 1942, the new Camp Stoneman in Pittsburgh, California was ready to serve as the main staging area for troops. Fort McDowell and Camp Stoneman were part of the San Francisco Port of Embarkation, a military authority that also included Fort Mason in San Francisco and Oakland Army Terminal. Although now secondary to Camp Stoneman, Fort McDowell processed a massive number of troops, mainly casual overseas replacements or troops returning from overseas for rotation or furlough. The West Garrison continued to function in a support capacity with the main army activity at the East and North

³⁸Hussey, 28. On Gately see Soennichsen, 155. Aerial view of West Garrison, c. 1927, NARA, RG 77, Entry 393, Box 142, Folder 2.

³⁹See reports HABS No. CA-1841-A through CA-1841-D for more information.

⁴⁰Hussey, 28-29; West Garrison, Fort McDowell, Sketch No. 2510, (8 April 1941), copy in National Park Service, GGNRA Archives at the Presidio in San Francisco.

⁴¹Hussey, 29.

Garrisons.⁴²

During the demobilization period, Fort McDowell again played a vital role in the processing of troops. In December 1945, the busiest month, 23,632 men moved through Angel Island on their way home. The flow of returning soldiers continued in 1946, but began to lessen as the year progressed. On August 28, 1946 Fort McDowell was decommissioned and the remaining Transportation Corps soldiers transferred to Camp Stoneman. With the end of the war, the expense and inconvenience of maintaining the island post was deemed unnecessary. The War Department declared the island and its installations surplus to the War Assets Administration on September 20, 1946.⁴³

In 1948 the Department of the Interior assumed responsibility for Angel Island, and many proposals for establishing a park or developing the island were considered. In 1954 the Quarantine Station area of the island became a state park, but establishment of a Nike missile base left the rest of the island under military control. The small garrison assigned to the Nike missile was housed in the hospital at the East Garrison. Finally in 1963 the rest of the island became part of Angel Island State Park, after the Nike base closed in 1962.⁴⁴

II. SOURCES OF INFORMATION

A. Architectural drawings:

See notes for a listing of site plans of the West Garrison from Record Groups 92 and 77 at the National Archives and Records Administration in Washington, DC and College Park, Maryland. A 1954 site plan is available in the Angel Island State Park collections.

B. Early Views:

See notes for references to specific historic photographs. A number of historic Camp Reynolds images copied from a variety of other repositories are available at the Angel Island State Park offices.

RG 92-F U.S. Military Posts of the Late 19th Century, NARA, Still Picture Branch, College Park, MD, "Angel Island," c. 1890s, Box 1, Folder 3.

92-F-3-1: General View of Post

92-F-3-2: Officer's Quarters (view from bottom of parade ground)

92-F-3-3: Barracks

⁴²On the World War II activities at Angel Island see Hussey, 28-30; and Soennichsen, 156-161.

⁴³Soennichsen, 161-164; Hussey, 29-30. For an inventory and appraisal from this period see "Fort McDowell - Angel Island, W-CALIF-191," NARA - Pacific Regional Office, San Bruno, California, RG 270 - Records of the War Assets Administration, Office of Real Property, Real Property Disposal Case Files, 1946-49, Box 65.

⁴⁴See Soennichsen, 165-173.

92-F-3-4: Barrack Interior
92-F-3-5: Non Commissioned Staff Quarters
92-F-3-6: Post Hospital
92-F-3-7: Post Headquarters
92-F-3-8: Guardhouse and Quartermasters Storehouse
92-F-3-9: Bakery
92-F-3-10: Commissary and Quartermaster Office and Storehouses
92-F-3-11: Quartermasters Stable
92-F-3-12: Engine House

RG 111-SC, NARA, Still Picture Branch, College Park, MD, "Fort McDowell," c. 1880s-1910, Box 623 and 688 (WWI): Chief Signal Officer - Prints - Military History.

Aerial views of East and West Garrison, c. 1927, NARA, College Park, MD, RG 77, Entry 393, Box 142, Folder 2. These are very clear, oblique aerials.

C. Bibliography:

See notes for a listing of relevant archival materials from Record Groups 393, 92, 77, and 112 at the National Archives and Records Administration in Washington, D.C. and College Park, Maryland.

Anderson, Lieut-Colonel Thomas M. "Army Posts, Barracks and Quarters," *Journal of the Military Service Institution of the United States* 2:8 (1882): 421-447.

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Hoagland, Alison K. "'The Invariable Model': Standardization and Military Architecture in Wyoming, 1860-1900," *Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians* 57:3 (September 1998): 298-313.

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files.

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Soennichsen, John *Miwoks to Missiles: A History of Angel Island*. Tiburon, CA: Angel Island Association, 2001.

Surgeon General's Office. *War Department Circular No. 4 A Report on Barracks and Hospitals with Descriptions of Military Posts*. Washington, DC: GPO, 1870.

Surgeon General's Office. *Circular No. 8 - A Report on the Hygiene of the U.S. Army, Descriptions of Military Posts*. Washington, D.C.: GPO, 1875.

Weigley, Russell F. *History of the United States Army*. Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1984.

Wood, Robert M. "Preliminary Recommendation for the Interior Restoration of the Buildings Remaining on West Garrison," typescript, Angel Island State Park files.

D. Likely Sources Not Investigated:

Additional photo research is required at the California State Park offices in Sacramento and other California repositories.

E. Supplemental Material:

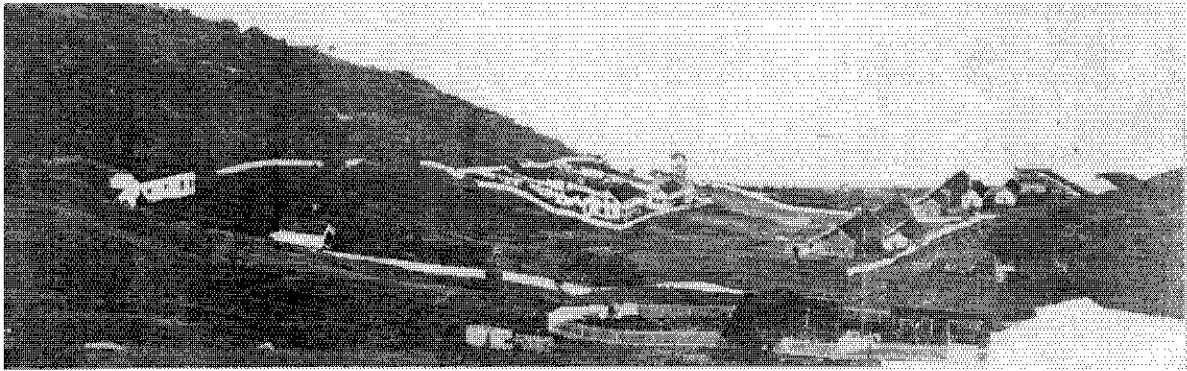


Figure 1: Camp Reynolds, c. 1865

Source: Photo No. CN2250, RG 92, Quartermaster Photographs, Vol. 25, National Archives, Still Picture Branch

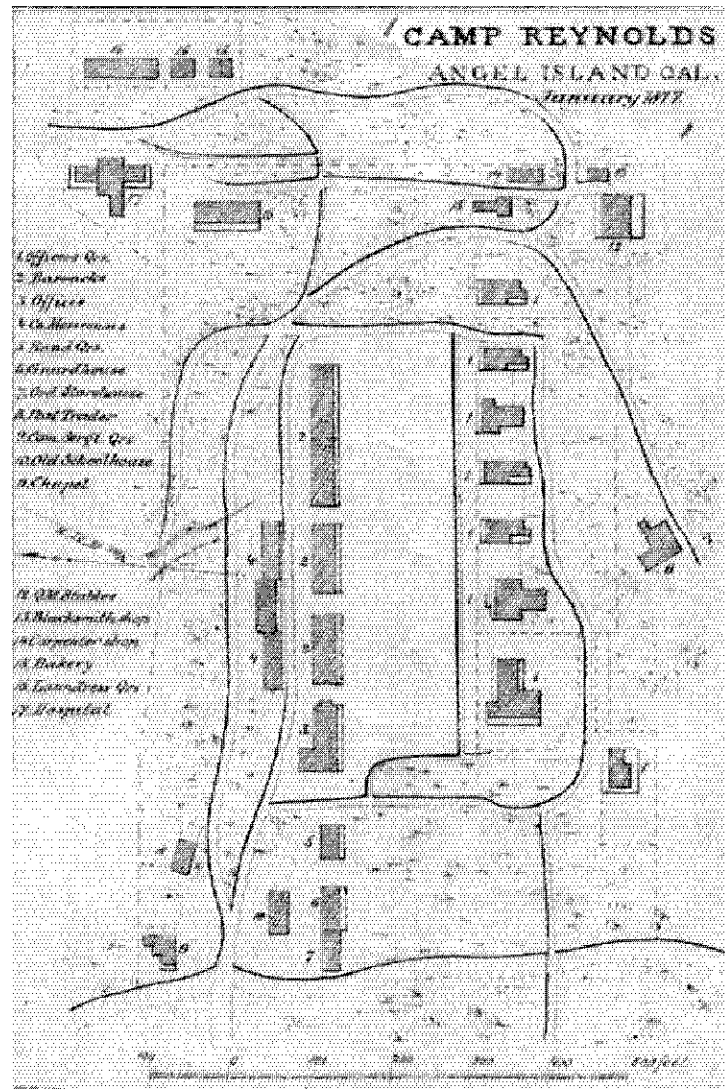


Figure 2: Camp Reynolds Site Plan, January 1877

Source: National Archives, Cartographic and Architectural Branch, RG 77, Fortification File, drawer 154, sheet 44-8.

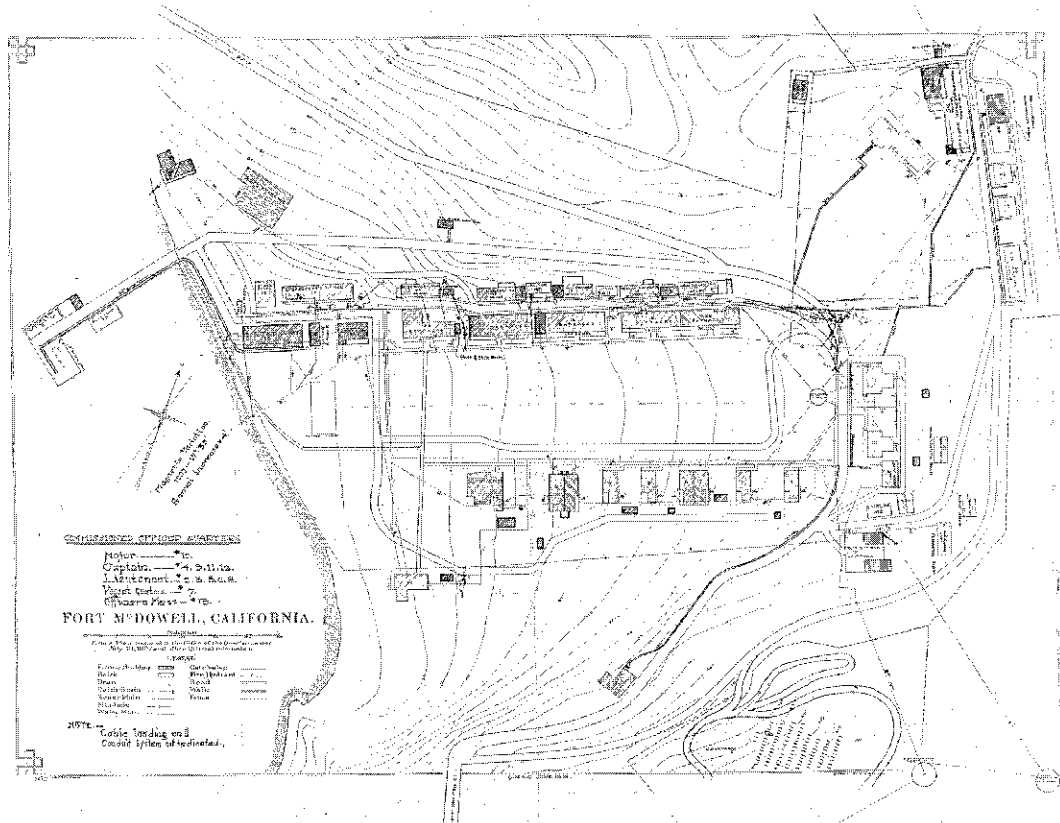


Figure 3: Fort McDowell, West Garrison Site Plan, July 1907
Source: National Archives, Cartographic and Architectural Branch,
RG 92 - Post and Reservation File, Fort Plan Volumes, 1904-05.